

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00

L-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-07 PM-03 /063 W

----- 035892

O P 231225Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2996

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 4207

DEPARTMENT AF/E FOR AMBASSADOR MARSHALL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IR, KE, US

SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS IRANIAN F-5A/B AIRCRAFT

REF: TEHRAN 4853

1. REFTTEL PARA 1-C REQUESTS BEST RATIONALE AS TO WHY GOI SHOULD DONATE AGE AND SPARES FREE OF CHARGE TO U.S.-DESIGNATED RECIPIENT COUNTRIES. IN CASE OF KENYA, I WOULD SUGGEST, SUBJECT TO CONCURRENCE OF DEPARTMENT, THAT EMBASSY TEHRAN MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS TO GOI:

(A) TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND POLITICAL STABILITY OF KENYA THREATENED BY NEIGHBORING SOMALIA AND UGANDA, WHICH ARE INCREASINGLY HOSTILE AND HAVE BEEN HEAVILY ARMED BY SOVIET UNION.

(B) DUE SHARP INCREASE IN KENYA'S IMPORT BILL (PARTICULARLY FOR PETROLEUM) AND LACK OF OFFSETTING INCREASE IN EXPORT PRICES, KENYAN BALANCE OF PAYMENTS OVER NEXT SEVERAL YEARS WILL BE TOO WEAK TO ENABLE KENYA TO FINANCE OUT OF OWN RESOURCES ARMS NEEDED FOR RELATIVELY MODEST SIX YEAR ARMED FORCES MODERNIZATION PROGRAM DESIGNED TO DETER EXTERNAL ATTACKS.

(C) WHILE WE DO NOT BELIEVE IMMINENT, THERE IS LONGER TERM
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POSSIBILITY THAT GOK WOULD, IF FRIENDLY COUNTRIES INSUFF-

ICIENTLY RESPONSIVE TO KENYAN NEED FOR CONCESSIONARY FINANCING
OF ARMS IMPORTS, TURN TO SOVIETS FOR NEEDED ARMS. SOVIETS
HAVE ON SEVERAL PAST OCCASIONS OFFERED ARMS TO KENYA.

(D) WE WOULD THINK IT IN IRAN'S INTEREST, AS WELL AS THAT
OF

U.S., TO HELP PRESERVE A SOUND INDEPENDENT AND DEVELOPING
KENYA WHICH CAN EXERT MODERATING INFLUENCE, THROUGH EXAMPLE AS
WELL AS ACTION, IN AFRICAN AND WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN AFFAIRS.
IN ADDITION, A FRIENDLY KENYA WOULD BE LIKELY TO OFFER ROUTINE
ACCESS TO PORT OF MOMBASA TO IRANIAN NAVY VESSELS, FACILITY WHICH
MIGHT BE ATTRACTIVE IN FUTURE AS IRANIAN NAVY EXPANDS.

2. I BELIEVE TIME HAS COME WHEN WE SHOULD TAKE IRANIAN EMBASSY

IN NAIROBI INTO OUR CONFIDENCE ON PROPOSED F-5 DEAL IN HOPES
THAT EMBASSY WILL SUPPORT OUR POSITION IN TEHRAN. WITH CON-
CURRENCE OF DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY TEHRAN, I WOULD THEREFORE
PROPOSE TO MAKE POINTS PARA 1 TO AMBASSADOR KAZEMI ASAP.
LINDSTROM

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